Accessing Core Content Standards

Teaching the alternate content standards in the area of reading and math can be challenging. Teachers will need to be creative but also need to see that many activities they are currently using are already giving students access to the General Content Standards.

Teaching reading and math to our students will be a great addition to already strong programs. If you combine the different ideas of academic, functional and social into classroom instruction, students will leave your programs with more knowledge then ever thought possible.

Challenge your students and challenge yourselves! This may be a new way of thinking, but we can use the methods and technology we already access to improve instruction for our students.

One of your best sources will be your General Education Reading and Math Teachers. Collaborating with your general educators will not only give you great activities to incorporate into the classroom, but they will learn from you as well.

Other resources for activities include: paraprofessionals, occupational therapists, integration specialists, physical therapists, speech therapists and anyone who has a knowledge of working with students who have alternate curriculum.

The following pages are examples and ideas to start generating thought processes to teaching General Content Standards in an alternative setting.



This student is successfully taking photography with her general education peers and uses adapted equipment and alternate curriculum.

Example of Access to General Curriculum 11th grade Math (geometry)

Goal: Students will use the language of geometry to discover, analyze and communicate geometric concepts, properties and relationships

Indicator: Uses properties of geometric figures to solve problems from a variety of perspectives

Extended Standard: Writes and solves proportions through visual groupings.

Advanced: If a recipe calls for ½ cup of sugar, and you only have ¼ cup to measure, how many scoops are needed using ¼ cup.

Activities:

- 1. Hands on cooking activities will help students learn the concepts of fractions. Have labs for students to experiment with measuring cups. Have students put rice in $\frac{1}{4}$ measuring cup how many fit in the $\frac{1}{2}$ measuring cup and how many fit in the 1 cup. It is easily done with $\frac{1}{3}$ measuring cups as well.
- 2. Give students a recipe and make sure that if they need ½ cup of sugar and only have ¼ cup available to measure.

Applying: Writes and solves proportions through visual grouping **Activities:**

Hands on activities are great for students at the applying level. Students can use manipulatives to solve problems. For example, lay out five squares and have a student lay out the same amount in circles.

Developing: Solves proportions

Activities:

Students love to do puzzles and it is an appropriate activity for students of all ages, they can start with 2 pieces to put a picture together and then cut the picture into 4 pieces and so on and so forth. This will help students learn how parts become a whole.

Introducing: Demonstrates how to reduce fractions

Activities: Hands on activities will work well with the introducing students. Students can use manipulatives to cut things in half and then half again, teachers can use food, paper, or anything that can be made into halves. If you have material that is tactile, students maybe able to feel what ½ means. This is where creativity comes to light.

Graphic Organizer

Students can use recipes for both reading and math extended standards. The following recipe has modifications for students who are learning how to measure the measuring cups and the recipe are color coded to help students learn a skill.



